

Appl. No. 10/054,113
Atty. Docket No. 8364M
Office Action dated: 10/10/2003
Reply Dated: 03/01/2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

β 4. (Currently Amended): A laminar application device for applying an interposed patch to a target surface, comprising:

(a) a substantially planar applicator substrate comprising a graspable means; wherein the applicator substrate comprises an interior surface, said interior surface comprising an adhesive means;

(b) ~~the~~ a substantially planar patch comprising a first surface and a second surface, said second surface comprising an adhesive means; and

(c) a substantially planar release substrate comprising a graspable means; wherein the release substrate comprises an interior surface;

~~wherein the interior surface of the applicator substrate comprises an adhesive means;~~

~~wherein the second surface of the patch comprising an adhesive means;~~

wherein the adhesive means of the interior surface of the applicator substrate releasably affixes the first surface of the patch to the interior surface of the applicator substrate thereby comprising a first peel bond and thereby forming an applicator substrate/patch combination comprising an upper surface;

wherein the release substrate is releasably affixed to the upper surface of the combination thereby comprising a second peel bond;

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wherein the strength of the first peel bond is greater than the strength of the second peel bond;

~~wherein the adhesive contact area has a leading edge contact area and a trailing edge contact area;~~

~~wherein the patch comprises a circumferential lateral edge wherein the circumferential lateral edge has a leading edge a trailing edge; and a non-securing edge;~~

~~wherein the leading edge is proximate to the graspable means of the releasably affixed release substrate;~~

~~wherein the trailing edge is distal to the graspable means of the releasably affixed release substrate;~~

wherein the patch comprises a circumferential lateral edge, said circumferential lateral edge having:

- (a) a leading edge, said leading edge being proximate to the graspable means of the releasably affixed release substrate;
- (b) a trailing edge, said trailing edge being distal to the graspable means of the releasably affixed release substrate; and
- (c) a non-securing edge;

wherein the adhesive means of the interior surface of the applicator substrate comprises an adhesive area comprising an adhesive contact area, said adhesive contact area having a leading edge contact area and a trailing edge contact area;

wherein the leading edge contact area tacks the leading edge to the interior surface of the applicator substrate; and

wherein the trailing edge contact area tacks the trailing edge to the interior surface of the applicator substrate; ~~and,~~

~~wherein the strength of the first peel bond is greater than the strength of the second peel bond;~~

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5. (Original): A device according to Claim 4 wherein the strength of an adhesive bond between the adhesive means of the second surface of the patch and a target surface is greater than the strength of the first peel bond.
6. (Currently Amended): A device according to Claim 5 wherein the graspable means of the applicator substrate and the release substrate are outwardly extending tabs and wherein the tab of the release substrate is laterally offset from the applicator/substrate combination.
7. (Original): A device according to Claim 6, wherein at least either the leading edge contact area or the trailing edge contact area is a sinusoidal pattern.
8. (Original): A device according to Claim 7, wherein the adhesive area comprises surrounding the patch.
9. (Original): A device according to Claim 8, wherein the patch further comprises an active.
10. (Original): A device according to Claim 9, wherein the active is a drug.
11. (Currently Amended): A device according to Claim 10, wherein the tab of the release substrate is completely laterally offset from the applicator/substrate combination.
12. (Currently Amended): A kit containing an application device comprising:
(a) an application device according to Claim 6;
(b) a usage instructions associated therewith; and
(c) a package containing components (a) and (b).
13. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the applicator substrate comprises polyester film.
14. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the patch comprises polyethylene film.
15. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the release substrate comprises siliconized polyester.

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16. (New): A device according to Claim 9, wherein the active is selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, rubifacients, analgesics, hormones, anti-seborrhea agents, anti-psoriatic agents, keratolytic agents, and mixtures thereof.
17. (New): A device according to Claim 16, wherein the active comprises one or more hormones.
18. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the leading edge comprises from about 10% to about 30% of the total circumferential lateral edge of the patch.
19. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the trailing edge comprises from about 10% to about 35% of the total circumferential lateral edge of the patch.
20. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the leading edge contact area comprises an area from about 0.4 cm² to about 2 cm².
21. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein the trailing edge contact area comprises an area from about 0.4 cm² to about 2.5 cm².
22. (New): A device according to Claim 4, wherein at least one of: (a) said graspable means of the applicator substrate, or (b) said graspable means of the release substrate; comprises a tab.
23. (New): A method for delivering hormones as part of a hormone therapy to a human female patient in need thereof, comprising providing a device according to Claim 4 to said patient.